

XXXXXXXXXXXX
Department of Genetics

February 9, 1959

Professor M. R. Irwin
Department of Genetics
University of Wisconsin
Madison 6, Wisconsin

Dear Bob:

The enclosures cover some formalities that I probably should have taken care of more explicitly before leaving Madison, but I am sure you will sympathize!

We are gradually getting set up here and should be actually at work in the laboratory by the middle of next week. Having some of this familiar apparatus at hand has been a wonderful convenience as I am sure there would have been unforeseen delays on the part of at least some items.

It was some help to have had two weeks of absolutely splendid weather during the first two weeks of our stay, which at least helped to soothe some of the raw edges of the moving itself. We have been living in a kitchen-furnished motel most of the time since our arrival, some of this interval having been punctuated by a phage conference at Berkeley, but we have made arrangements for rental of a home on campus and we look forward to occupying this in about a week. I will close with the remark that everyone here has been just as friendly and helpful as their counterparts at Wisconsin.

I was very sorry to hear that Luria had decided not to accept the Wisconsin post as I was sure that this would have been a remarkable arrangement both for him and for the University. It is obvious that Mrs. Luria's academic opportunity in Boston played a nearly decisive role in his decision. I am sorry that I cannot think of anyone who could play a part quite comparable to Luria and I would be somewhat baffled at this instant for suggestion for a near approximation. In any case, you know that you have my very best wishes both personally and departmentally,

As ever,

Joshua Lederberg

JL:ljr
Enclosures